

**USDA Areawide Suppression of Fire Ant Economic Survey
(Pre-Application Practices)**

Date: _____

A. General Operation Information

What is the address of the site?

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ County _____ Zip Code _____

Geographical Information System: _____

Legal Description of Property and acreage: _____

1. Have you ever used any fire ant control products in your cattle or hay? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: _____

2. Have you ever experienced any problems caused by fire ants in relation to your cattle or hay pastures?

☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please describe: _____

B. Production Loss

3. What types of production related fire ant damage did this operation have and what was the estimated value?

Damage Type	3a. Forage loss	3b. Ruined Hay Bales	3c. Livestock loss or Injury	3d. Other *
Dollar Value	\$	\$	\$	\$

*Describe: _____

C. Equipment Expense

4. In the past year, did this operation have to repair or replace equipment due to fire ant damages? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. What type of equipment was damaged, and what were the costs to repair or replace the equipment? Please identify any expenses due to fire ants and give dollar amount.

Type of Equipment	5a. Hay Baler	5b. Mower	5c. Tractor	5d. Irrigation	5e. Electrical	5f. Cattle Sprayer	5g. Fencing	5h. Other *
Cost to Repair	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cost to Replace	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

*Describe: _____

D. Medical Expense

6. Have there been any fire ant injuries to people or livestock that require medical expenditures in your operation?
☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Please identify any expenses due to fire ants and give dollar amount.

Victims	9a. Workers	9b. Children	9c. Livestock	9d. Other (Specify) _____
Cost of Treatment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

E. Farmstead (around homes and barns) Expense

8. Was there fire ant damage to the farmstead or anything else on your operation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

9. Please identify any expenses due to fire ants and give dollar amount.

Damage to:	7a. Farmstead (including outside buildings)	7b. Other (Specify) _____
Dollar Value	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____

F. Control, Treatment, and Equipment Expenditures

10. What types of fire ant control and treatment items did your operation use, and how much were the expenses for these items? Please identify any expenses due to fire ants and give dollar amount.

Control Items	10a. Professional Treatment	10b. Insecticide Mound Treatments	10c. Insecticide Baits	10d. Biological Controls	10e. Mechanical Disturbance	10f. Organic Controls	10g. Other (Specify) _____
Cost for cattle & pasture areas	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Cost for farmstead (home & barn areas)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

11. What equipment and other supplies for fire ant control were purchased, and what was the cost of the application? Please identify any expenses due to fire ants and give dollar amount. (Include gloves, masks, protective clothing, etc.)

Type of Equipment/Supplies	11a. Sprayers	11b. Spreaders	11c. Injection Equipment	11d. Other Equipment and Supplies (Specify) _____
Cost for cattle & pasture areas	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Cost for farmstead (home & barn areas)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

12. Total amount spent on fire ant control per year \$ _____

13. Total time spent controlling fire ants. _____ hours per week or month or year (circle one)

14. List the products you use to treat fire ants and rank their use, 1 is the most used, 4 the least. (Include Drenches/dusts and baits.)

14a. Drenches/dust

1 2 3 4 Dursban (chlorpyrifos)

1 2 3 4 Diazinon

1 2 3 4 Orthene

1 2 3 4 Other (Specify) _____

1 2 3 4 Other (Specify) _____

14b. Baits

1 2 3 4 Amdro

1 2 3 4 Logic/Award

1 2 3 4 Fire Ant Ender

1 2 3 4 Bushwhacker

1 2 3 4 Other (Specify) _____

G. Wildlife Expenses

Many farmers and ranchers rely on hunting leases for a substantial part of their income. Some evidence suggests that fire ants are causing declines in wildlife populations, but this is difficult to confirm and putting a dollar value on a deer or a quail is almost impossible for a researcher. Since you know your land better than anyone, please give us your opinion on how much fire ants are costing in terms of dollars and/or lost of enjoyment of wildlife and the outdoors.

15. Please identify any wildlife loss due to fire ants and give dollar amount.

Type of Wildlife Specie	12a. Quail	12b. Deer	12c. Turkey	12d. Other (Specify): _____
Number of Animals Lost				
Cost	\$	\$	\$	\$

16. Total Estimated Lost of wildlife :\$_____per year

17. What is the approximate yearly hunting income (in terms of leases or rentals) from your land? \$_____.

H. Benefits

18. Has this operation experienced any benefits from fire ants? ☐ Yes ☐ No

18a. If yes please give dollar value \$_____and explain the benefits:_____

I. Seasonality of fire ant problems

19. Fire ant activity can be very seasonal. To help improve the timing of fire ant control, please: list the months in which you have significant fire ant related problems. Please identify any the months with the most problems due to fire ants (assume 1 the greatest occurrence of problems and 4 the least occurrence of problems.)

a. 1 2 3 4 January

b. 1 2 3 4 February

c. 1 2 3 4 March

d. 1 2 3 4 April

e. 1 2 3 4 May

f. 1 2 3 4 June

g. 1 2 3 4 July

h. 1 2 3 4 August

i. 1 2 3 4 September

j. 1 2 3 4 October

k. 1 2 3 4 November

l. 1 2 3 4 December

J. Opinions

20. If you don't treat for fire ants, why not?

a. ____ Have not found an effective control method.

- b. ____ Have not found an economical control method.
- c. ____ Do not believe fire ants are a bad enough problem on this operation.
- d. ____ Other (Specify) _____

21. Do you feel that it is economically feasible for livestock producers in your area to:

- a. treat their pasture/rangeland? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b. treat "calving pastures"? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- c. treat other facilities such as pens, kennels, sheds, stock tanks, etc? ☐ Yes ☐ No

22. What do you think is an economically justifiable annual cost per acre for treatment?

- ☐ None ☐ \$1-3 ☐ \$4-6 ☐ \$7-9 ☐ \$10-12 ☐ \$13-15 ☐ More than \$15, Specify \$_____

PLEASE RETURN SURVEY TO:

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